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Examiner : Scott R. Kastler  
Art Unit : 1742  
Docket No. : 52433/763

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : T. TOMINAGA et al.  
Serial No. : 10/826,772  
Filed : April 16, 2004  
For : TREATMENT METHOD FOR IMPROVING FATIGUE LIFE AND LONG-LIFE METAL MATERIAL TREATED BY USING SAME TREATMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REPLY**

SIR:

This Request For Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed April 17, 2007 and the Advisory Action mailed July 23, 2007.

Please enter the unentered amended claims of the Amendment Under Rule 116 filed July 16, 2007 (Certificate of Mailing dated July 13, 2007) and consider the amended claims on the merits. The arguments for patentability of the amended claims set forth in the Amendment Under Rule 116 filed July 16, 2007 are incorporated herein by reference.

A copy of the Amendment Under Rule 116 filed July 16, 2007 (Certificate of Mailing dated July 13, 2007) is attached hereto for the convenience of the Examiner.

A petition for an extension of time in which to respond to the Office Action mailed April 17, 2007 accompanies this Request For Continued Examination (RCE).

**CONCLUSION**

An action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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